

# Lake County Sheriff's Office

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**John D. Idleburg  
Sheriff**

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Home Invasion Suspect Apprehended by K9 Dax

On April 23, 2023, at approximately 8:30 p.m., Lake County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to a residence in the 36200 block of North Old Creek Court, Unincorporated Gurnee, for a possible home invasion.

A 911 caller indicated he was on FaceTime with the victim, a 36-year-old woman. While speaking to the victim, a man appeared in the video behind the woman, she screamed, and the call disconnected.

Sheriff's deputies arrived and located the victim, who had been battered by the man. Further investigation revealed a former acquaintance of the victim, Joshua Simmons, 34, of the 800 block of Woodvale Drive, Dublin, Georgia, forced entry into the victim's home, took her phone and struck her in the face and neck. When sheriff's deputies arrived, Simmons fled on foot. The victim declined medical treatment.

A sheriff's sergeant located Simmons' vehicle parked about a block from the scene. Sheriff's K9 Dax responded and conducted a track for Simmons. After a one-mile track, K9 Dax located Simmons in a three seasons room of a residence, hiding. Simmons refused to surrender, and K9 Dax was deployed. K9 Dax bit Simmons on his arm and Simmons struck K9 Dax. Simmons subsequently surrendered. K9 Dax was unfazed by Simmons' punch.

Simmons was transported to an area hospital for treatment for the dog bite. He was treated and released back into the custody of sheriff's deputies.

After reviewing the facts and circumstances of the case, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office approved the following charges for Simmons:

Home Invasion (Class X Felony)

Two Counts of Domestic Battery (Class 4 Felonies)

Criminal Trespass to Residence (Class 4 Felony)

Striking a Police K9 (Class A Misdemeanor)

Resisting Arrest (Class A Misdemeanor)

Sheriff John D. Idleburg said, “Fortunately, the victim was on a telephone call when this incident occurred, and her friend was able to call 911. If it were not for the quick thinking of the victim’s friend, this situation could have ended much differently. I am proud of the work of our Patrol Division and Sheriff’s K9 Team who worked quickly to locate and apprehend this violent offender.”

All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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